

MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
PEDESTRIAN WORKING GROUP AND THE
REGIONAL BICYCLE TASK FORCE

Tuesday, March 20, 2007 at 1:30 p.m.
MAG Office Building, Cholla Room
302 North First Avenue, Phoenix

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Tami Ryall, Gilbert, Chair, Regional Bicycle Task Force and Acting Chair of the Pedestrian Working Group	*Farhad Tavassoli, Goodyear
*Bruce Meyers, ADOA Gen. Services	Michael Cartsonis, Litchfield Park
Michael Sanders, ADOT	Peggy Rubach, Maricopa County
*Brian Fellows, ADOT	Mitch Foy, Mesa
*Michael Eagan, ASLA, Arizona Chapter	Brandon Forrey, Peoria
Janeen Gaskins, Avondale	Katherine Coles, Phoenix
*Thomas Chlebanowski, Buckeye	Srinivas Goundla, Phoenix
*Michael Normand, Chandler	Randi Alcott, RPTA
*Bill Lazenby, Coalition of Arizona Bicyclists	*Dawn Coomer, Scottsdale
Mark Smith, El Mirage	Reed Kempton, Scottsdale
*Steve Hancock, Glendale	*Eric Iwersen, Tempe
	*Bart Wingard, Surprise

*Members neither present nor represented by proxy.

^Attended via audio-conference

OTHERS PRESENT

Jim Coffman, Coffman Studio
Peyton McCloud, Sprinkle Consulting
^Theo Petritsch, Sprinkle Consulting
Ronnie Stricklin, Maricopa County

1. Call to Order

Peggy Rubach called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

2. Approval of the February 20, 2007 Meeting Minutes of the Pedestrian Working Group and the Regional Bicycle Task Force

Janeen Gaskins moved to approve and Katherine Coles seconded the move to approve the meeting minutes of the Bicycle Task Force and Pedestrian Working Group for February 20, 2007. Cathernie Coles noted that she attended the January meeting remotely. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Call to the Audience

An opportunity was provided to members of the public to address the Bicycle Task Force and the Pedestrian Working Group on items not scheduled on the agenda that fall under the jurisdiction of MAG, or on items on the agenda for discussion but not for action. Members of the public were requested not to exceed a three minute time period for their comments. A total of 15 minutes was provided for the Call to the Audience agenda item, unless the Bicycle Task Force and the Pedestrian Working Group requests an exception to this limit. Please note that those wishing to comment on action agenda items were given an opportunity at the time the item was heard.

There were no members of the public present.

4. Staff and Member Agency Reports

Peggy Rubach introduced Ronnie Stricklin as the Federal Aid and Grants Coordinator for Maricopa County, a retired professor in urban affairs. Mark Smith reported that El Mirage has developed a draft bike plan for their General Plan. Srinivas Goundla reported that the City of Phoenix along with ADOT and Maricopa County are coordinating an employee Bike to Work Day on April 18, 2007 at Park Central Mall to City Hall. Mitch Foy announced that the City of Mesa now has 150 miles of bike lanes in the city. Randi Alcott noted that all events on Bike to Work Day are on the Valley Metro web site. She encouraged all cities to join the challenge. All of the events are listed in both English and Spanish. Reed Kempton reported that the City of Scottsdale Bike to Work event will take place on the new Pima path and that May 6, 2007 is the Bike to the Arts event. On March 21, 2007, Scottsdale staff is bringing forth recommendations to the Scottsdale Transportation Commission that all arterial streets need to have bike lanes. It is estimated that 22 miles of bike lanes can be striped immediately. Janeen Gaskins noted that the Littleton Sidewalk Design Project and the Avondale Bike Bridge Project are moving along.

5. Presentation on the MAG Regional Bikeway Master Plan

Maureen DeCindis explained that the Mid-block Crossing Guidelines were discussed earlier that morning at the MAG Safety Committee. The local government traffic engineers were still not in agreement about the final language for the Guidelines. Brandon Forrey explained that several engineers from a few lead cities identified concerns that continue to be a major sticking point such as the matrix. It was decided that the Safety Committee would continue to work on the Guidelines outside the parameters of the final Bikeways Masterplan.

Jim Coffman referred members to page 49 of the draft plan. This new chapter explains mid-block crossing treatments that currently exist until the HAWK is approved through the MUTCD. The need is discussed, and grade separated facilities are noted as the preferred treatment. Criteria for the at-grade treatments were discussed and a recommendation was introduced in the policy section requesting the development of an agreed-upon set of guidelines for the region at a later date. The experimental were noted at the end of the chapter.

Mitch Foy noted that within two years, the HAWK will be in the MUTCD policy.

Tami Ryall suggested that the Guidelines should not be included in the appendix of the Masterplan. Peggy Rubach was assured that the ideas for grade separations treatments for new development was clearly stated in the Plan. Michael Cartsonis expressed the need for a regional approach to standards for the inclusion bike facilities in all transportation projects. Peggy Rubach noted that the local transportation engineers are willing to continue to work on the Mid-Block Crossing Guidelines and should be encouraged to do so. Theo Petritsch suggested that the engineers are not willing to write down any ideas that are not already in the MUTCD. Active treatments are needed to address the real problems.

Peyton McCloud reviewed the overview of the chapters in the Plan. A new recommendation will be included in the Goals that will state that to improve connectivity of shared use paths, engineers from the MAG member jurisdictions should jointly adopt a policy that better enables path users to safely cross these types of roadways at mid-block locations, perhaps through the use of experimental traffic control devices. The new recommendation and the technical appendix will be emailed to committee members for comments due on March 30, 2007.

Reed Kempton asked whether the regional bike map and regional corridors will be encouraged in the Plan. Jim Coffman explained that although the emphasis is on the local routes, neighborhood connections and short distances, the interconnected regional system continues to be a goal and will be included. He also noted that the survey questionnaire results has list of gaps (94 pages) that will be on file. Regional route plans will demonstrate the need for routes to connect between cities and towns. Brandon Forrey also expressed the need to keep regional emphasis.

6. Presentation on the West Valley Recreation Corridor

The presentation of the West Valley Recreation Corridor was tabled for another meeting.

7. Discussion on the Current Status and Potential Changes to Bicycle Safety Education Grant and Input on Next Year's Grant

The presentation of the Valley Metro Bicycle Safety Education was tabled for another meeting.

8. Scope Change to City of Scottsdale Project, Scottsdale Road: McKellips to Osborn Road

Project SCT09-611 - Scottsdale Rd: McKellips Rd to Osborn Rd is programmed for FY 2009 with \$2,577,443 in CMAQ funding. The City of Scottsdale requested that the project limits from McKellips Rd to Osborn Rd be changed to Roosevelt Street to Earll Drive. Reed Kempton explained that Scottsdale Road connects with the City of Tempe. The borders overlap and the City of Scottsdale would like to move ahead on their own section of the roadway and accomplish as much of the project that they can. Peggy Rubach moved to approved the request to change the scope of the project. Mitch Foy seconded the motion. Upon approval, the change will be incorporated into the Draft FY 2008-2012 MAG TIP.

9. Meetings for 2007

All meetings will be on Tuesday in the Cholla Room at 1:30 p.m.

April 17, 2007

May 8, 2007 (Note: change of date)

June 19, 2007

July 17, 2007

August 21, 2007

September 18, 2007

October 16, 2007

October 23, 2007 (optional)

November 20, 2007

December 18, 2007 NOON